Outbreak of SARS in far Eastern region

832. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian shipping companies suffered losses as a result of outbreak of SARS in far Eastern countries;

(b) if so, whether these shipping companies had to curtail their voyages to ports in far Eastern region; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Container terminals at Mumbai

833. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether two container terminals at Mumbai are being run by JNPT and a privately owned P&O Management, respectively;

(b) whether the JNPT proposes to offer a third container terminal to the private operators and has called for bids;

(c) whether P&O Management has been disqualified by JNPT for bidding for the new terminal on the grounds of constituting a monopoly; and

(d) whether the P&O terminal at Mumbai is considered more efficient and economically operative by the shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI): (a) There are, at present, two container terminals at Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Navi Mumbai. One container terminal is managed and operated by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) itself and the other one is managed and operated by a private company, namely, Nhava Sheva International Container Terminal Private Limited (NSICT) controlled by P&O Australia Ports Pty Limited on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis under a License Agreement with the JNPT.